

FEATURED SPEAKERS (more to be added)

Keynote Speaker: Greg Galluzzo has over 40 years of experience in community organizing. He began his organizing career in Chicago's Mexican community and has practiced the art in over 70 communities in the United States, South Africa and Great Britain. He is the co-founder of Gamaliel Foundation – an international network of faith-based community organizations - and was the mentor and trainer to Barack Obama when the President worked at Gamaliel in Chicago in the 1980s.

Keynote Speaker: Jack Levin, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Criminology and Co-Director of the Brudnick Center on Violence and Conflict at Northeastern University. He has authored or co-authored thirty-one books including *Hate Crimes: The Rising Tide of Bigotry and Bloodshed*, *Hate Crimes Revisited*, *Why We Hate*, *The Violence of Hate: Understanding Harmful Forms of Bias and Bigotry*, and *Hate Crime: A Global Perspective as well as more than 250 articles and columns in professional journals, books, and major newspapers*, such as *The New York Times*, *London Sunday Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*. Levin was honored by the Massachusetts Council for Advancement and Support of Education as its "Professor of the Year" and by the American Sociological Association for his contributions to the public's understanding of sociology. He has also received awards from the Eastern Sociological Society, Association of Clinical and Applied Sociology, New England Sociological Association and Society for the Study of Social Problems. Moreover, Levin has spoken to a variety of community, academic, and professional groups, including the White House Conference on Hate Crimes, the Department

of Justice, OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (a membership of 59 countries), Royal College of Psychiatry in London, The Inter-Faith Ministry of Kansas, Oregon's Human Rights Commission of the Attorney General's office, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Dante Allen is the executive director for the California Achieving Better Life Experiences (CalABLE) Board, where he is responsible for directing the program launch and operations of CalABLE, a tax-advantaged savings plan that can be established for the benefit of qualified individuals with disabilities.

Tony Anderson has served people with disabilities for more than 29 years, championing legislative efforts to increase funding and improve programs for people with I/DD. He is currently Executive Director of Valley Mountain Regional Center.

Nora J. Baladerian, Ph.D. is both the project director of the Disability & Abuse Project and a clinical psychologist with a private practice focusing on trauma and abuse. She conducts seminars and trainings for first responders, agency personnel, and service providers. Dr. Baladerian is often consulted by attorneys engaged in litigation, both civil and criminal, for forensic evaluations and strategic advice in cases involving disability and abuse.

Peter V. Berns is a nationally recognized nonprofit sector leader and public interest lawyer. He is the Chief Executive Officer of The Arc, the world's largest community-based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Micaela Connery has been working in disability services since she was fifteen. She is an award-winning social entrepreneur, published writer on inclusion, and international speaker on social impact. She is the designer of The Kelsey - a mixed ability, mixed income housing communities where people of all abilities and backgrounds live, play, and serve together.

Stephen Dale is a disability rights advocate and spends much of his time attending disability rights activities, including legislative hearings and serving on boards and committees of disability-rights organizations. He is a frequent speaker on a variety of disability related topics across the country and is the recipient of the 2010 Theresa Foundation Award and the 2007 NAELA Powley Award. Additionally, Mr. Dale is a longstanding member of the Special Needs Alliance, a national, not for profit organization of attorneys dedicated to the practice of disability and public benefits law.

Jacquie Dillard-Foss (Lanterman Coalition) California Supported Living Network and CEO STEP Agency.

Annette Downey is a licensed social worker and currently serves as the Executive Director of Community Living Services' Oakland County Division in Michigan. She is a tireless advocate for systems change aimed at promoting people with disabilities' right to choose their own life paths and to control who, what, when, where, and how their supports are provided.

Jennifer Dwyer is the Supervisor of Peer Advocacy at the Tri-Counties Regional Center.

Scott Graves joined the Budget Center in 2002 and has served as director of research since 2014. In this role, he oversees the Budget Center's analytical work, conducts research and analysis related to health and human services, and is the organization's lead analyst on the state budget process. Scott has covered a number of other policy areas at the Budget Center, including child care, preschool, corrections, and housing, with a focus on both the state and federal levels.

Stephen Hinkle, a respected international speaker and self-advocate, has presented in 24 US states and Australia. He has inspired audiences, successfully advocated for inclusive education and better outcomes for people with special needs, and assisted others on how to help people with disabilities.

Barry Jardini (Lanterman Coalition) joined California Disability Services Association (CDSA) as Director of Government Affairs in December of 2015. He came to CDSA with significant legislative and legal experience, working on public health, fair housing, and disability issues. He has served as a legislative manager with the California Department of Public Health, counsel with the Assembly Judiciary Committee, and as the commission attorney for the Sacramento Regional Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission.

Joseph M. Macbeth is the Executive Director at the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) and has worked in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities for more than 30 years – beginning as a Direct Support Professional. He is recognized as a national leader in the advocacy and advancement of the direct support profession.

Denise Martinez advocate.

Carole Watilo is the Executive Director of Progressive Employment Concepts and its outlying offices that do business under the names Community & Employment Services and Community Employment Links. From 1987- present Watilo has worked with adults with developmental disabilities in a variety of capacities. She has provided direct services as an ILS Instructor, SLS support person, and employment support specialist.

Amy Westling (Lanterman Coalition) is the Executive Director of the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA). She joined ARCA in 2012 and has focused on services for children at-risk of developmental disabilities, accessing health insurance funding for autism services, and the funding needs of California's developmental services system. Prior to that, she worked for Alta California Regional Center coordinating the movement of individuals with developmental disabilities from institutional to community settings and for Central Valley Regional Center overseeing service coordination in rural Merced and Mariposa Counties.

Anthony Wright has served as Executive Director for Health Access, the statewide health care consumer advocacy coalition since 2002 and has led state and national efforts to win consumer protections, fight budget cuts and invest in our safety-net. Wright led California's coalition effort to help pass the Affordable Care Act and state laws to implement and improve it.